

NEWS RELEASE

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Springfield Man Pleads Guilty to Conspiracy to Distribute More Than 5 Kilograms of Cocaine

Springfield, IL – A Springfield, Illinois man, Adam Martin, age 28, of 2215 Lindbergh Blvd, pled guilty today to participating in a conspiracy to distribute more than five kilograms of powder cocaine in the Springfield area from 2004 to October 2005, as announced by Rodger A. Heaton, United States Attorney for the Central District of Illinois. Martin pled guilty to the four offenses charged by a federal grand jury on November 17, 2005: conspiracy to distribute cocaine (one count); distribution of cocaine (two counts); and, use of a telephone to facilitate a drug offense (one count.)

During a hearing this afternoon before U.S. Magistrate Judge Byron Cudmore, Martin admitted that from 2004 until October 28, 2005, he conspired with others to distribute five or more kilograms of powder cocaine. Martin admitted he furthered the conspiracy by “brokering” cocaine transactions between third party purchasers and another supplier; that he negotiated cocaine prices and often provided for delivery of the cocaine in his home; and, that he purchased pre-paid cellular telephones to facilitate communication with a supplier regarding ongoing cocaine transactions.

Martin pled guilty to two instances of distribution of more than 200 grams of powder cocaine to a confidential source: on July 26, 2005, when Martin distributed the cocaine for the agreed price of \$6,400, and on September 21, 2005, when he again distributed what he knew was more than 200 grams of powder cocaine at his home.

Sentencing is scheduled for October 2, 2006, at 1:30 p.m. before U.S. District Judge Jeanne E. Scott. Martin was allowed to remain on bond pending sentencing. The offense of conspiring to distribute five or more kilograms of cocaine carries a statutory mandatory minimum of 10 years to life in prison. Distribution of cocaine carries a penalty of up to 20 years in prison. For using a telephone to facilitate a drug offense, the penalty is no more than four years in prison.

The charges were the result of an ongoing Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force (OCDETF) investigation by the Drug Enforcement Administration, the Springfield Police Department, the Illinois State Police and the Central Illinois Enforcement Group. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney John E. Childress.

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